

REMARKS

The applicant respectfully thanks the Office for its careful consideration of this case, and for its notice of allowable subject matter in claims 9, 10, and 12-14. The applicant hereby cancels claims 9, and 15-20.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

The Office has rejected claims 1, 11, 21, and 22 as unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,406,079. The applicant amends claim 1 to include the elements of claim 9, noted by the Office to contain allowable subject matter. As claims 11, 21, and 22 are dependant from claim 1, the applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended are patentably distinct from the '079 reference. The applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Office issue a notice of allowance regarding claims 1, 9-14, 21, and 22.

Applicant believes the above amendments and remarks to be fully responsive to the Office Action, thereby placing this application in condition for allowance. No new matter is added. Applicant requests speedy reconsideration, and further requests that Examiner contact its attorney by telephone, facsimile, or email for quickest resolution, if there are any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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